

SUMMARY MINUTES
Delta Protection Commission Primary Zone Study Committee
Meeting of March 10, 2010
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
City of Rio Vista, Council Chambers

The meeting was called to order by Executive Director Linda Fiack at 11:10 a.m.

Meeting Attendance

Committee Members in attendance: Commissioners Albright, Pegos, Piepho, Ruhstaller and Vick. Committee Members not in attendance: Commissioners Cabaldon and Ferguson. Staff in attendance: Executive Director Linda Fiack.

Public Members in attendance: Doug Brown, Douglas Environmental; Tom Gau, San Joaquin County; Rob Wainwright, consultant; Vin Rover, Private Island Homes/Bay Area BIA; Susan Dellosso, River Islands/RD 2062; Ramon Batista, River Islands/RD 2062; Richard Hernandez, Contra Costa County resident; Michael Eslobosa, Delta Bay Boat Patrol; Patrick Trinner, Sailor/Resident; Roberta Goulart, County of Contra Costa; and Mike O'Hagan, HNTB.

Review of Senate Bill X7 1 (SB 1)

The Committee reviewed and discussed the provision of Senate Bill X7 1, Section 29773.5 calling for the Commission to prepare and submit to the Legislature, on or before July 1, 2010, recommendations regarding the potential expansion of or change to the Primary Zone or the Delta, particularly the areas of: Rio Vista, Isleton, Bethel Island, Brannan-Andrus Island; Cosumnes/Mokelumne floodway; and the San Joaquin/South Delta lowlands. The Committee noted that there is a need for clarification of the geographic area cited as the Cosumnes/Mokelumne floodway and the San Joaquin/South Delta lowlands.

Discussion of Draft Outline for Primary Zone Expansion Study Process Concept dated February 25, 2010

The Committee reviewed the Concept that was distributed at the February 25, 2010 meeting of the Commission. There was concurrence that the word expansion should be removed from the Concept Title (and the Committee name) as the legislation indicates the study is to explore potential expansion of "or change to" the Primary Zone or the Delta. There was also concurrence that agriculture should be included in the Agency Mission cited under Section A of the Concept. The remainder of discussion focused on the Scope of Work, particularly the listing of criteria.

Public Comment

Mike O'Hagan asked if a change in the Primary Zone would require a change to the Delta Protection Act. The Committee responded that it would, however, it was also noted that recommendations could be status quo which would not require a change in the Act.

Susan Dellosso noted that the River Islands project can be a model example of how a rural levee system can be financed through public-private partnerships. She also stated that sea level should be considered in that all of the Primary Zone is below sea level and the Secondary Zone is above seal level.

Tom Gau reiterated that the process must include stakeholder input.

Direction to Staff

- The authors of the legislation will be contacted by staff in an effort to obtain clarification of the areas noted as Cosumnes/Mokelumne floodway and the San Joaquin/South Delta lowlands.
- The Draft Concept will be revised to reflect the Committee discussion, particularly Section A – Agency Mission, and Section D – Scope of Work, particularly Nos. 1, 3, 6 and 7.
- The revised Concept will be developed into a Request for Proposals to be circulated for three weeks to solicit consultant interest pursuant to State requirements. The Committee will conduct the RFP review and selection process.
- The revised Concept will be provided to the Commission as part of the Committee's update at the March 25, 2010 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by the Executive Director at 1:00 p.m. The next meeting will be called for the review of proposals submitted pursuant to circulation of the RFP (tentatively the week of April 12, 2010).